

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum****Project Title:**

# Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum - Aircraft Shelter and American Pilgrim Aircraft

**State Funding Requested: \$ 250,000****House District: 17 - I**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Permitting and Foundation funding of \$150k to complete the new shelter building for fabric aircraft and \$100k to complete the restoration of the American pilgrim aircraft which came to Alaska in 1932.

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$293,000**Funding Secured

Amount FY

Other Pending Requests

Amount FY

Anticipated Future Need

Amount FY

There is no other funding needed

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

This is an education priority. Museums are an important showcase of community history and pride; the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum offers a chance for Alaskans and visitors alike to learn about the unique role aviation has played and continues playing in our state's development. As a part of the Museum's dedication to preserve, educate and honor this rich history it is looking, among other things, to expand with additional facility space and restored aircraft exhibits.

**Facilities:** In the Fall of 2007 the Museum staff and volunteers purchased and erected a 9,000 square foot aircraft shelter to protect and display the Museum's and State's collection of aircraft. There still remains a significant amount of contract work to be done before the shelter is operational and ADA compliant.

**Aircraft Restoration:** Previous State of Alaska grants enabled the restoration projects on two of the Museum's aircraft, an American Pilgrim (1931) and Stinson L-1 Vigilant (1941). The Museum restoration volunteers are in the final stages of restoring the 1931 American Pilgrim, N709Y. This aircraft has a significant Alaska flying history and is currently listed on the National Historic Registry.

With the support of the state of Alaska, Rasmuson Foundation, Murdock Charitable Trust, Alaska Airlines, Peninsula Airways, Janice Reeve Ogle and the dedication and hard work of the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum has grown to be a premier destination for Alaskans and visitors alike. The number of visitors to the Museum has increased from 3,700 in 2004 to over 16,000 in 2007. The Museum was recognized as the 2007 Community Organization of the Year by the Anchorage Convention and Visitors Bureau. The Museum complex has been used by the Discovery Channel and the History Channel for filming Alaska shows and the Today show research team has

used the Museum's archives to prepare for a show highlighting aviation history.

**Project Timeline:**

The requested money will be used to complete projects that have already been started.

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Municipality of Anchorage

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☐ Yes ☒ No